

PROGRAMME UPDATE



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
Fédération internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge
Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر

COTE D'IVOIRE

15 September 2003

Appeal no. 01.25/03; Appeal target: CHF 338,043 (USD 231,949 or EUR 229,834)

Programme Update No. 1

Period covered: January to August 2003

The Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity. It is the world's largest humanitarian organization and its millions of volunteers are active in over 180 countries. For more information: www.ifrc.org

In Brief

Appeal coverage: 68.2%; please refer to the Contributions List for this appeal on the Federation's website. http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?annual03/1-2-3%20-%20ap012503.pdf

Outstanding needs: CHF 107,353 (USD 76,000 or EUR 69,800)

Related Emergency or Annual Appeals: N/A

Programme Summary: The 10-month crisis in Côte d'Ivoire drastically affected activities of the Red Cross Society of Côte d'Ivoire for the first half of the year. Nonetheless, national society volunteers were able to respond to the needs of displaced people during the crisis. Health workers attended refresher training courses while health points in western Côte d'Ivoire were being equipped and refurbished. Local committees were reactivated; the youth department held a camp meeting as a refresher for Red Cross youth on the principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

Operational developments

Côte d'Ivoire has been shaken by armed rebellion since 19 September 2002, a crisis that threatened the total destabilization of the West Africa region. Formerly the most stable nation in the region, Côte d'Ivoire has been rocked nearly to its limits. What started as a protest against the demobilization of a group of soldiers turned into a full-blown war which has divided the country in two. There are three armed groups, now known as new forces, which control the north and west of the country, while the government controls the south. Though there has been no fighting since 4 July 2003 – following the signing of a cease-fire agreement between the different military factions – the political situation remains precarious.

Over 2,500 French soldiers and hundreds of West African peace-keeping forces are serving as buffer forces in the northern and western part of the country¹. Thousands of lives have been lost in the rebellion, the latest being mass graves discovered in Bouake, Vavoua and other towns. Both the government soldiers and dissidents have been accused of human rights abuse.

As a result of this conflict, there are over one million internally displaced persons (IDP). As many as 400,000 foreigners have fled the country. Guinea (Conakry) has also suffered from the conflict; thousands of foreigners have fled into Guinea (Conakry), in addition to 92,000 refugees from the conflict in Liberia and Sierra Leone. A number of neighbouring countries (Niger, Burkina Faso, Senegal and Ghana) have suffered from the Côte d'Ivoire conflict as well.

¹ Agence France Presse (AFP)

Over 40,000 Liberian refugees and thousands of other nationals transited through Ghana, with some seeking asylum in Ghana and others crossing over to Togo, Benin, Nigeria and Liberia. This armed conflict has had a drastic effect on the economy of the Côte d'Ivoire and its neighbours.

1. Health and care

Goal: To contribute to the reduction of morbidity and mortality due to communicable diseases among the most vulnerable populations in Côte d'Ivoire.

Objective: National Society efforts to combat HIV/AIDS/STDs and other communicable diseases (yellow fever, malaria, cholera) in selected rural health districts are strengthened.

Expected Results

1. HIV/AIDS and STDs prevention and care activities are reinforced in four health districts (Yamoussokro, Korhogo, Aboisso, and Gagnoa) through sensitisation and home and community based care. A community based system for assisting persons living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) has been developed and put in place in the respective villages. The capacity of the national society at the local committee level to conduct HIV/AIDS/STD-related information and education campaigns (IEC) and condom promotion/procurement activities have been increased. Income generating activities are in place to sustain programme activities.

Achievements

Due to armed conflict in the country, this objective could not be attained; however, other health activities were carried out.

Following the equipping of 10 health points, community health programmes resumed in two localities of the west of Côte d'Ivoire namely Toulépleu and Bloléquin. The national society organised refresher courses for health workers to enable them carry out community health care activities such as primary health care, sensitization, education on hygiene and disease prevention among the people. The Red Cross of Côte d'Ivoire health officer and the HIV/AIDS Coordinator participated in a workshop on the assessment and adoption of "documents on health-care assistance to persons living with HIV/AIDS" organized by Family Health International. The national society participated in the HIV/AIDS in the workplace workshop organised by the Federation Regional Delegation during this reporting period.

Impact

- The capacity of health workers was improved through refresher courses.
- The people in western Côte d'Ivoire received adequate health care.

Constraints

The armed conflict had a drastic effect on activities under this programme.

2. Humanitarian values

Goal: The rights of children in Côte d'Ivoire are increasingly respected and further championed by the public as a whole.

Objective: The Red Cross Society of Côte d'Ivoire has contributed to the reduction in child trafficking and the worst forms of child exploitation (debt bondage, armed conflict, commercial sexual exploitation and drug trafficking) in Côte d'Ivoire through advocacy.

Expected results

The capacity of the national society in advocacy and mobilizing community action through advocacy is increased at all levels.

- Five Red Cross volunteers have been trained as trainers in advocacy and community mobilization. They have been trained in methods and techniques which are useful in helping families protect themselves from child trafficking and exploitation. These include methods to dissuade people from accepting the practice in their community and what action to take if they suspect its occurrence.

- Fifty volunteers have been trained and have undertaken social mobilization activities.
- Child exploitation and trafficking has decreased in the targeted communities. Approximately 5,000 people per month have been made aware of the problem, know how to recognize it and no longer tolerate its existence in their community. Community leaders have helped in the advocacy campaign and communities have developed their own watchdog groups to protect children against such malpractices.
- A local radio programme which discusses child trafficking and exploitation across Côte d'Ivoire has reinforced the work done by Red Cross. The programme champions the rights of the children in the eyes of the general public.

Achievements

This objective could not be attained due to the armed conflict in the country; however, other activities related to principles and humanitarian values of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement were carried out.

With financial support from the Federation, the Red Cross of Côte d'Ivoire organised its third Red Cross National Youth Camp Meeting from on 24 to 31 August 2003. During the camp, 130 youths from 32 Red Cross committees and 10 youth sections participated. A delegation from Togo also participated.

The theme of the camp was: "the strength of the Red Cross' principles and humanitarian values in a period of crisis". The national society launched the 43rd local committee of the Red Cross in Jacquville during this reporting period.

Impact

The youth were informed on the principles of the Movement.

Constraints

Due to the armed conflict in the country, many of the activities could not be carried out.

3. Organizational development

Goal: To decrease vulnerability of people living in Côte d'Ivoire through improved service delivery by the Red Cross of Côte d'Ivoire.

Objective: The Red Cross of Côte d'Ivoire has completed a comprehensive Strategic Development Plan, based on a national society capacity assessment, which is coordinated and agreed upon with key stakeholders both within and outside the Movement, leading to a systematic development approach which will allow the national society to progressively increase its capacity to better meet the needs of the vulnerable.

Expected Results

- The Red Cross of Côte d'Ivoire has completed the Cooperation Agreement Strategy (CAS) process.
- A national society capacity assessment exercise has been completed
- A three-to-five-year strategic development plan (based on national society capacity assessment) has been developed in coordination with other stakeholders.
- The Cooperation Agreement Strategy has been presented and confirmed in a partnership meeting, convened by the Red Cross of Côte d'Ivoire.

Achievements

The Red Cross of Côte d'Ivoire financially supported the organization of the central committee meeting which took place on 28 February and 1 March 2003 in Abidjan. The meeting was attended by 53 elected members and officials of the committee who met to discuss and adopt the operational manual for the national society (internal rules and regulations as well as financial and administrative procedures). In addition, information officers were trained during a three-day workshop in August 2003 in Abidjan.

The Federation also financed the training of the Red Cross of Côte d'Ivoire community health development officers on the Federation project planning process, in Lomé from 10 to 17 August 2003. The Federation "FRT" accounting software was installed and the accountant was trained on its use.

Impact

Central committees have been reactivated and strengthened.
An operational manual for the national society is now in place.

Coordination

The Federation Mano River sub-regional office has been working very closely with the Red Cross Society of Côte d'Ivoire since the sub-regional office was established. The Federation Head of sub-regional office has attended all functions of the Red Cross of Côte d'Ivoire, providing support to the national society in their project planning and preparation for the 2003 General Assembly.

For further information please contact:

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All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the Code of Conduct and is committed to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (SPHERE Project) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, please access the Federation website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

APPEAL No. 01.25/2003

PLEDGES RECEIVED

04/09/03

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
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CASH

					TOTAL COVERAGE	
REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->				338,044		68.2%
CASH CARRIED FORWARD				79,302		
BRITISH - GOVT/DIFD (04)				50,000	24.02.03	HEALTH AND CARE
BRITISH - GOVT/DIFD (04)				65,000	24.02.03	HUMANITARIAN VALUES
FINNISH - RC				25,000	EUR	07/01/03 HEALTH AND CARE
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				230,690	CHF	68.2%

KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				0	CHF	0.0%

ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED				0	CHF	